

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

The present invention is directed to the maintenance of call signaling information in connection with realtime communications established using a packet data network. According to the present invention, call state information related to a realtime communication is provided by a call controller to an interconnected client. The client stores the call state information. In the event of a failure of a call signaling channel between the call controller and the client or in the event of a failure of the call controller, the client may establish contact with an alternate call controller, and may provide the call state information that has been stored on the client to the alternate call controller. The alternate call controller may then restore call features associated with the realtime communication.